FOR MYSORE STATE

Agriculture (CIV) (195) Departm

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. Ms.1689. Pa

Dated 28th June 1955.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Forests--South Kanara District--Areca Plantation--Discontinuance of --Revision of Policy--Proposal--Orders issued.

C.F. 32—7,79,805—25-9-50.

Forest Department

From (Name)
Sri V.V.Subramanian,I.C.S.,
Designation
Chief Conservatorvator of Forests
Station Madras-5.

Received — Registered

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVT. MADRAS

17 JUN 1954

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

To
The Secretary to Government,
Agriculture Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Enclosures:

Ref. No. 3150/54-G dated 15-6-54 195 .

Sir,

Sub: Leases - South Kanara - Areca plantation - Discontinuance of - Revision of policy.

81932

I have to invite the attention of Government to para 6 of G.O.MS.No.1994, Development, dated 15-8-38 in which they had agreed that suitable areas in Reserved Forests may be leased out to private individuals on reasonable terms for formation of plantations of arecanuts.

2. Such plantations of long term tree crops will first necessitate clear felling and removal of the forest crop (if any) on the site. In any case, there can scarcely be any justification for giving up forest land set apart as such, for the purpose of raising agricultural, horticultural or plantation crops - unless the land is obviously unsuitable for raising or sustaining forest crops. Ordinarily a site which will not support a forest crop of one kind or another, is extremely unlikely to be suitable for any of the more exacting (cultivated) crops. And such lands should be devoted only to forest crops. When permission is given for cultivating land in Reserved Forest with a crop like areca or plantain, it amounts to an admission that the land is not really require for forest purposes. Further, in return for a pittance of a lease amount, the Department may be granting free entry into the Reserve Forest to a potential timber thief or atleast facilitating other irregularities.

The following instances will illustrate the point.

Irregularities committed by Cardamom Lessees.

There are 23 cardamom leases in Tirunelveli Division. Except in eight cases (5,9,10,12,13,15, 16 and 22), breach of conditions in the agreement or failure to plant the area with cardamom has been reported in all other leases and suitable action has been taken in the matter.

Irregularities noticed in the case of a lease ~~for grant~~ of Forest land Areca plantation:-

One Sri M.Sankaranarayana Kadambalithaya was granted an area of 43 acres for areca cultivation in Aletty Reserved Forest, South Kanara Division in accordance with Govt.Memo.No. 88412 CII/49-10 Development dated 14-11-50 and G.O.MS.No. 6080 Development dated 10-12-51. The lessee was charged for illicit felling of trees in the leased area. The lease had to be cancelled (vide Govt.Memo.No.65700 CIII/53-5 Agriculture dated 2-1-54)

I submit therefore that the Forest Department should

revise its policy on the question of allowing land leases for areca and such plantations in the Reserved Forests.

3. In the circumstances, I request that the general orders of Government agreeing to the grant of leases of land in Reserved Forest for Areca and such tree plantations may be cancelled. Exceptional cases, if any, can always be considered on their merits.

16.6.54

for CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

GS166 1/6448 14c

Memo. no. 81932 C IV/54-1 dt 17.7.54

Sub: Leases - South Kanara - Areca Plantations - Revision of Policy.

Ref: From the C.C.F. Mg. no. 3150/54 G. dt 15.5.54.

—

A copy of the reference from the C.C.F. Madras is forwarded to the Bd. of Rev for urgent remarks in consultation with Collectors.

2 An extract of G.O no Ms 1994 Dev (para 6 only) d. 15.8.38 referred to in the C.C's letter is also enclosed for reference.

16/7/54

Dr. 28/54 17.7.54

Draft a.o Ms. no 1994 and c.f. 17.7.54

PP 142 cf.

(w.c Bd of Rev) 31.7.54

ER 3/9/54 5/9

RR 18/9/54

To The Bd. of Rev. with a copy of PP 142 (extract of Govt in pp 111-20 of 38) 15/7/54

Copy To The C.C.F. Madras (R.D. 7.8.54)

ER 16/8/54 16/8/54

RR 12.9.54 15.7.54

From
Sri K.Venkataramana Gowda, M.L.A.,
Sri Y.Manjaya Shetty,M.L.A.,
Sri M.S.Mogral, M.L.A.,
Sri K.Ishwara, M.L.A.,

To
The Hon'ble Sri M.Bhaktavatsalam,
Minister for Agriculture,
Government of Madras,
MADRAS 9

x.x.x.

Agri (C IV) 7

Memo. no. 81932 C IV / 54-7 dt 31.4.55

Sub: Forests - S. K. Dt. Areca Plantation - Lease of land.

Ref: From Sri. K. Venkataramana Gowda M.L.A., and this letter dt 24.3.1955.

In continuation of Govt. Memo. no. 81932 C IV / 54-1 dt 17.7.54, a copy of the letter cited is forwarded to the Board of Rev (CA) for very urgent remark.

2.0.3.55.

31/3/55

ER

P.T.O

Pl. see
4
8.6.55.

P 5 cy

CENTRAL DESPATCH BRANCH
P. 3 cy.
Despatched
Initials.

Board of Rev (CA)
with a copy of P. 5 cy.

To The C.C.F. Nilgiris
with a copy of P. 5 cy.

R.O 16.6.55.

8 To be

The letter at P 5/4 and the minute of M(A) wherein may be perused.

A draft memo is submitted overleaf for approval.

30.3.87.

REVENUEDEPARTMENT.
SUBJECT.

LEASES - SouthKanara - Areca Plantations - Revision of policy - Report submitted.

****

No1: B.P.Rt. 1767

Station:Madras. Dated: 1.4.55.

Sri V.R.S.Sattianathan, I.C.S., Commr. of Land Revenue & Development.

Sri P.Sivasankaran Pillai, I.A.S., Secretary, Board of Revenue (LR).

****

Read:- Government Memo No.81932 CIV /54-1 dt., 17th July '54.

*****

The Board submits that when the Forest Department considers a particular plot as not required for preservation of forests, there appears to be no need to refuse to grant the land for plantation on suitable conditions. It considers that there is no need for a change in policy.

2. In regard to lessees who violate the conditions of lease and resort to objectionable activities, there is provision to proceed against them and it will be always open to Government, to refuse to renew the leases in their favour. The Board also submits that with reference to Government memo 1173.1/38-2 dated 2.5.38, after taking into account the results achieved on the present policy adopted for filling up the gap in imports, the Government can slow down the policy of granting leases for arecanut plantations and decline to renew leases, when the existing leases expire.

for Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government,
Agriculture Department, Madras.

PLK.5/4/55

11

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Sub:

Forests-South Kanara Dist.Areca plantation - leases of land.

Bd's L.Dis...3396/55 Station:Madras. Dated 18/4/55.

From

41198 Sri W.R.S. Satthianathan, I.C.S., Commissioner of Land Revenue and Development.

Sri P. Sivasankáran Pillai, I.A.S., Secretary, Board of Revenue.

Read: Govt.Memo.81932 CIV/53-7 dt.1-4-55.

REFERENCE:

The Board invites the attention of the Government to B.P.Rt. 1767 dt. 1-4-55 in which the remarks of the Board in the matter were submitted to Government.

For Secretary.

The Secretary to Government,
Agriculture department.

C.J. 20/4

RVIs
2.4

Agri CC(IV)

T. M. no 8/1932-C IV/54-9 dt 28.4.57.

Pl. issue
28.4.57.

From

The A. S. to Govt.
Agri Deptt.

To

The Bd. of Rev (LR)
Madras.

TM issued
28/4/57

Sir,

Sub Forests. Leases. S. Kanara. Areca Plantations. ~~Raising~~ Revision of policy.

~~Policy Note~~ From the Bd. of Revenue, Lr. no. B.P.RT. 1767 dt. 1.4.57.

Please furnish a copy of Govt. Memo. no. 1173.1/38-2 dt. 2.5.38. for reference.

28/Dec/57

CENTRAL DE PA. BRANCH
Received by
Date 195 . Despatch

Ref

P.T.y
K.G. 25

D.C. to go

26.4.57.

24/4/57

43110

C. F. 304—9,000 Books—28-11-47.

OFFICE OF THE

Date 30.4.55

FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY
30 APR 1955
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Hour Minutes

TELEPHONIC MESSAGE

From	To
The Secy. Bd of Rev (L.R)	The Asst. Secy Agri. Deptt

Sub:- Forest leases South Kanara Areca nut plantations. Revision of policy.

Ref:- Your TM 81932 C IV 54-9 dt 28.4.55 & 13 enclt

The Govt Memo No. 1173/38-2 dt 2.5.1938 is not available in the L.R. branch of the Board. However the C.C.F is being asked to send a copy of the Govt Memo urgently direct to the Govt.

Please write on both sides

16

To AS

Appx C(IV)

Copy of Govt Memo referred to overleaf may be answered till 10.5.55.

For orders

4.5.55 Secretary CCF

" "

" "

To AS A draft T.M. in this C.C.F is submitted for kindly approval

Submitted that "C.C.F" referred to in Asst Secy's note is evidently a mistake for Board of Res. If this is so the address in the draft T.M. will be corrected before issue

6/5/55

Immediate/Special

1b

C.F. 32 ~70,10,568—20-1-54.

Forest Department

From (Name) Sri M.A. Badsha, B.A.,

Designation Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of

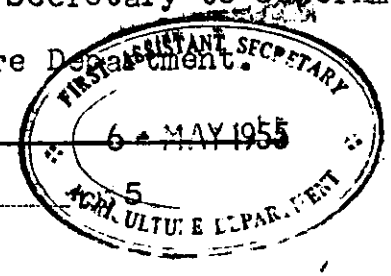
Station Forests, Madras-5.

Received ——— Registered ———

To

The Assistant Secretary to Government,

Agriculture Department.



Enclosures

No. Ref.No.3150/54. (G)Cl., dated 2nd May 5

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Leases - South Kanara Aricanut Plantations - Revision of policy:

Ref: Telephonic message from the Board of Revenue dated the 30th April 1953:

....

A copy of the Government Memorandum No.1173-1/38-2, Development dated the 2nd May 1938 is furnished.

Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Enc: 1.
Mks.3/5.

Copy of Memorandum No.1173-I/38-2 Development dated 2nd May 1938

Sub: Forests - Working plans - New lines of work for forest utilisation - Report Called for.

It has been suggested that the following points should be kept in view when new working plans are prepared or existing plans are revised or when new lines of work for utilisation are undertaken.

(1) Grazing:- The reducion in the rate of grazing fees is in all probability, likely to lead to an increased number of cattle applying for admission into the reserves. Though the number to be admitted will be limited to the capacity of the forest, it seems advisable, wherever possible, to introduce the system of block grazing. This alone will lead to an ultimate solution of the problem of fixing the number of cattle for each block and making it certain that the fullest facilities are afforded to cattle to make use of grazing available in the forests. At present, it may be that where no scientific division of grazing blocks is made, marginal forests may be overgrazed while thefodder on thetops of hills may remain comparatively under grazed. This can be effectively prevented by devising suitable blocks and by fixing the number of cattle to be grazed in each block. This should be done whenever possible in consultation with public opinion of thelocality. If people are assured that the blocks will be made sufficiently big, that local cattle will be given preference, that each block will, as far as possible, be made self-sufficient in respect of water for cattle, there should be difficulty in making the public understand the utility of block-grazing. Provision for foreign cattle should be made to the extent possible in separate blocks. While dividing the grazing areas into blocks due regard must be paid to making as liberal a provision for water supply wheeever such does not exist and for the admission of cattle so far as is consistant with scientific forestry. In effect it should be a grazing settle ment for the area or areas bordering on reserved forests which may be regarded as purely timber producting ones.

(2) Problem of the goat:- Though goat browsing in reserved forests is prohibited, the problem of the goat cannot be lost sight of. It is an important and essential factor in national economy. In famine areas people live by breeding goats and the same is the case of in other places where agricultural labour remains idle for certain seasons in the year. The goat lives more on herbage than any other animal. If both the unreserves and the village pyrambokes prove insufficient for goat browsing and the forests too are closed to them. some means should be found to make this animal live. On the Hagari Agricultural Farm a good babul plantation yields Rs.105/- a year for goat browsing. Some endeavour should be made to take up at least ruined tanks and such other places as are not within easy reach of valuable forests or even canal bunds, ponds and such other places for developing babul, neem and such othe plantations as can give cuttings and be browsed by goats without much serious damage to the locality.

Research regarding the types of grass suitable for cattle nowgoing on for some time in the department should be co-ordinated with the work in the Agricultural Department which has done some work in this connecion.

3. Plantations. At present the regeneration operations seem to be restricted to standard timber like teak, sal or red sanders, etc, It is often forgotten that the supply of cheap fruits like tamarind, Jambu or neradi and wood apples are quite as important. In fact, there are few tamarind plantations less than 30 years old in South India except a few avenue trees that has been planted by enterprising district board officials or by Collectors

p.t.o.

* Wherever possible new grazing areas should be added ~~wherever~~ without detriment however to

of districts. Tamarind is a very valuable commodity if Dr. Mac Carrison's analysis of it as nuitrition expert is to be regarded as of any value. Provision should at least be made in the plain and marginal forests for such fruit plantations.

4. Manure leaf and fuel plantations. It should be the aim of the Forest Department to supply, as far as possible, manure leaf and fuel to villagers living in the neighbourhood of comparatively less important forests. This can be done as part of some scheme of regular village conservancy whereever villages are in close proximity to the forests. It is also possible to develop the unreserves for this purpose. Most of the canal banks (e.g. Cuddapah Kurnool canal or even the Buckingham canal) have few trees on them Some of these areas too can be taken over by the Forest Department if the Revenue or the Public Works Departments cannot undertake the work of planting them with species that would produce manure leaves and fuel.

5. Minor Forest Produce A review of the trade of India will show that myrobolum exports from India stand at the steady figure of 45 lakhs per year for the last 5 years. Steps should be taken to extract more myrobolu, Though India has a very large trade in myrabolum no attempt has been made either in this Province or elsewhere to increase the output in recent years either by special efforts at raising more produce or arranging for better methods of collecion. This may probably be due to the fact that the methods of collecion are indifferent or that theproduct is so scattered and spread over a large area that its collecion becomes difficult. Considering that myrobolum is a good tranning material it seems desirable to give such attention to it. The figures for the export trade are given below:-

Year	Export	Value £
1913-14	61,819 tons	329,626
1918-19	41,195 tons	328,936
1931-32	63,543 tons	486,380
1932-33	53,102 tons	417,955
1933-34	61,835 tons	419, 489
1934-35	67,777 tons	359,018
1936-36	74,117 tons	350,429

It is remarkable that during the years of the severest trade depression, there was an increase in the value of the produce. Even after 1932, there has not been much of a fall in the price. The Government consider that he Provicial Syviculturist and the Forest Utilisation Officer must do something to help the increase of out put of myrobolum in the departmental forests. In view of its utility both to the tanning industry and to the export trade, steps should be taken to imporve the yield from the forests and increase the sale.

Arecanut. In th case of arecanut also, South India though it produces the very best of its type, is unable to fill up the gap in imports to the extent of 100 lakhs every year coming into India. For arecanut cultivation terrai forests seem to be admirably suited if conditions approximating to those a Mettupalayam obtain esdowhere. Possibly, on the west Coast, in the lower reaches of the Anamalais and also in theUdamalpet-Mannar valley, it should not be difficult for fix upon such sites for regualar plantations to be built up by the Forest Departmant

p.t.o.

Cinnamon. The export of cinnmon from India has fallen from 72,000 lbs. in 1918-1919 valued at Rs.40,000 to about 5000 lbs. valued at Rs.1000/- in 1935-36. If the reduction in export is due in any way, to the curtailment of its producion, the Forest Departmet should investigate the question and attempt to do something to capture thelost export trade in this commodity.

Camphor A very large quantity of camphor is being imported into South India from other Countries. Camphor is an article of daily use in South India specially in view of the large number of temples it contains and the very large number of devotees that resort to these temples. Camphor yieding plants appear to have been sucessfully grown in thepast in some of theforestsin this Presidency. The Forest Department should investigate the possibilites of propagating this useful species so that the manufacture of camphor can be pursued as a cottage industry in areas adjacent to forests. In the Nilgiris there is at present some local production of camphor but d/e to the absence of aid, it is not in a position to develop;

6. Developmentof essential oils. There is a lot of fragrant flowers in the forest going to waste. Apart from this there is any amount of Karapaku (karisapillai), and pendamus which is available for essence. People from Northern India coming to Ganjam were making a lost of money from pendanus essences. Investigation by using experimental hand stills for the extracion of essence is likely to help greatly the development of the industry of essential oils.

Tree gum Tree gum has also not been adequately exploited and it should be possible for the Departiment to develop it.

As regards lac the Departiment should develop cultivation to such an extent that it should be able atleast for thenext year to tender even to the Government of India for supply of sealing wax.

7. Forest Utilization. In addition to investigating the question of the use of wooden poles for electric transmission lines, steps should be taken to plan out in advance fuel, bamboo, and timeber extractions in every range and division. If the Papanasam electricity scheme is to be linked up with the interior by transmission line, even palmyra posts may after proper treatment supplu the need and Tinnevelly has particularly good and strong palmyra. Taking the trade in Madras, it is found that the imports of teak wood from Burma into this Presidency are on the increase. In the month of December 1937 alone there was an increase in quantity of 2800 tons and in value of 3½ lakhs of rupees. The Chief Conservator of Forestsis requested to investigate the question whether ascued timber cannot replace theimported timber. Further, steps should be taken not only to popularise Malabar and other teak but to provide better marketting methods for local teak. At present the work of the Forest Utilization Officer seems to be confined mainly to sleeper passing. The Chief Conservator is requested to supply Government with full informzition regarding thesupply of sleepers made by the Government direct to the Railways and the supply of sleepers made by contractors to the Railways withing this Presidency.

The Forest Utilisation Departiment may also pursue the questionof picture frames. There are several places in Madras where there is a successful trade done in picture frames. In every town in the Presidency there are a few such shops if not a whole street of such shops. In every house there are pictures framed and mirrors framed but few know where threse frames come from. It is rather unfortunate that practically the whole of the stuff is imported notwithstanding the fact that pictue frames requare only

p.t.o.

(a), wood, inferior and superior
(b) Shellac varnish and paint and
(c) cheap labour.

The Forest Department appears to be most suitable to tackle this industry of picture frames. The Director of Industries and the Forest Utilisation Officer can altogether examine and easily evolve a scheme for themanufacture of these frames. It should be easy to get macinery for converting inferior timbers into picture frames and paint and market them. It should also be easy to convert small unsaleable slices of grained woods for superior frames. Wooden keepers and plugs used by Electrical wiremen in the electrical trade, most of which are at present imported from Burma, may also be made.

9. Cottage industries:- There are many cottage industries depending on the co-ordination of the Forest Department. Lac is one. There are also wooden combs, toys, and wooden frames for slates. The slate manufacure at Markapur must be assisted properly by supplying suitable fraing material by the Forest Department. It is understood that at present frames are imported from either Hyderabad or Calicut, though local forests can be developed to yield similar material. Provisions in theworking plans may be made for this purpose. Wooden toys, either made at Kondapalle or other places require considerable assistance and impetus. The wooden combs manufacture formaerly carried on at Kalahasti by Dommaras is fast sinking. While the Industries Department can do propaganda and assist in other ways the development of cottage industries, the Forest Department must provide the necess ary raw material.

The Chief Conservator of Forests is requested to examine the above suggestions in consultation with the public Works Department Revenue and the Industries Department concerned and submit detailed proposals for the orders of Government.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

(True Copy)

Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

R.3-5.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

From

The Secretary,
Board of Revenue(L.R.),
Chepauk, Madras.

To

The Asst. Secretary to Government,
Agriculture Department,
Madras.

Post Copy of Telephonic Message, dated 30-4-55.

Sub: Forests - Leases - South Kanara - Arecanut plantation - Revision of policy.

REF: Your ~~krkdcex~~ Te.M.No.81932/C4/54-9, dated 28-4-55.
P.13 ante

44311

The Government Memo.No.1173/38-2, dated 2-5-38 is not available in the Land Revenue Branch of the Board,. However, the Chief Conservator of Forests is being asked to send a copy of the Government Memo. urgently direct to the Government.

/true copy/

For Secretary.

vd/30-4.

55
30.4

Revenue Department.
Subject.

CX FOREST - South Kanara district - Areca plantation - Lease of forest lands - Revision of policy.

= = = =

AGRICULTURE(CIV) DEPT.

Subject:- Forests--South Kanara District--Areca ~~Arrear~~ Plantation--Discontinuance of--Revision of Policy-Proposal- Orders issued.

Pl. Issue 28.6.55 PPIII-1209 (B)

Read again:-

G.O.Ms.No.1994, Development dated 15-8-38.

Read also:-

From the C.C.F.Ref.No.3150/54. C1 dated 15-6-54.

From the Board of Revenue(L.R) B.P.Rt.1767, dated 1-4-55.

G.O.MS.NO. 1689 AGRI, D/28 6/55

P 1 cy.

P 9 cy

The C.C.F. has reported that the grant of land inside the reserved forests on lease for raising plantation of long term tree crops is beset with various difficulties and inconveniences from the point of view of the Forest Department, besides facilitating illicit cutting and removal of forest produces. He has therefore suggested that the general policy laid down in G.O.No. Ms.1994, Development dated 15-8-38 for the grant on lease suitable areas inside the R.Fs for raising areca plantations may be revised and the practice may be given up. He has also suggested that exceptional cases may be considered and decided upon their merits.

PPIII-1209 (B)

2. The Board of Revenue(L.R) is of the view that there is no need for any change in policy and has stated that when a particular plot is considered as not required for preservation of forests, there appears to be no need to refuse to grant the land for plantation on suitable conditions. As regards the lessees who violate the conditions of

Para 1 on P 9 cy.

(p.t.o.)

2
26

lease and resort to objectionable activities, the Board considers that there is provision to proceed against them and it is always open to the Government to refuse to renew leases in their favour. It has also stated that the Government can slow down the policy of granting leases for arecanut plantations, and decline to renew leases when the existing ones expire after taking into account the results achieved on the present policy adopted for filling up the gap in imports with reference to Government Memo.No. 1173.1/38.2 Development dated 2-5-38.

Para 2 on P 9 Cf.

— do —

PP 7-8 Cf (B)

3. The Government accept the views of the Board of Revenue(Land Revenue). They consider that the forest land should be put to the best possible use and that there can be no objection to lease suitable areas for valuable crops like cardamom, arecanut, plantains etc. provided they do not involve any damage to the soil, especially as the lessee would be generally able to devote more attention to make a success of the plantation resulting in profit to him and Revenue to Government ~~which cannot be called a 'pittance'~~. Further as the increase in production of arecanut is envisaged in the Second Five Year Plan, it is considered necessary to use for much arecanut more places, as are suitable for it. The Government therefore consider that there is no need for a change in the policy as

Note 4 Sec on P 9 Cf.

— do —

'A' on P 14 Cf

(p.t.o.)

as suggested by the C.C.F.

4. The Government also direct that the rate of lease amount may be enhanced, if necessary, so as to provide for meeting the cost of additional staff ~~if~~ any that may be employed ~~necessary~~ to effectively protect the forests from being illicitly exploited.

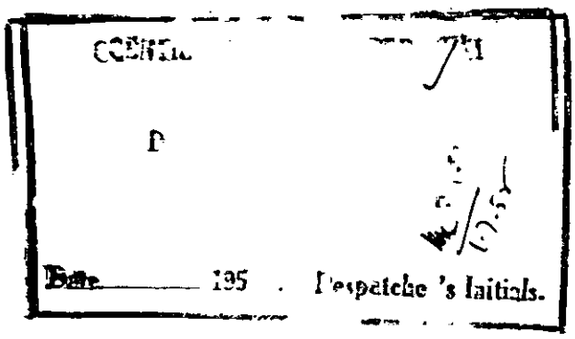
'A' on P. 14 ante.

To
The C.C.F., Madras.
The Board of Revenue (L.R.)
S.F.1.

24.6.35.

24.6.35

25.6.35



REVENUE DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT:

Forest - ~~South~~ South Kanara District - Areca plantation - Discontinuance of - Revision of Policy - Proposal orders issued - G.O.

MADRAS Ref.E.7630/55 dt. 10-9-55.

Sri M.V.Subramanian, I.C.S., Commissioner of Land Revenue, and Development.
Sri P.Sivasankaran Pillai, I.A.S., Secretary, Board of Revenue.

Read: G.O.Ms.No.1689 (Agriculture) dated 28-6-55.
Collector of Madurai Ref.30603 G/55-A4, dt.10-8-55.

REFERENCE: Copies below

Submitted to Government.

The Board requests to be informed whether the word plantains or plantation is correct.

for SECRETARY. 13955

To The Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department, Madras.
Copy to Collector of Madurai.

vd/12-9

Copy of letter Ref.30603.G.55.A4/10-8-55, from the Collector of Madurai, to the Secretary, Board of Revenue (L.R.), Madras.

Sub: Forests - South Kanara district - Areca plantation - Discontinuance of - Revision of policy - Proposals - Orders - Issued - G.O. communicated.

Read: Board's Ref.B.P.Mis.942/27-7-55.

Kind attention is invited to the G.O. communicated in the reference cited. In the second sentence in para 3, the word 'Plantation' after the word 'arecanut' has been corrected as 'plantain'. I request you to inform me whether it is 'Plantation' or 'Plantain'.

sd/- x x x
for Collector

(TRUE COPY)

for SECRETARY. 13955

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
14 SEP 1955
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT
82747

31
Agri CC IV)

Please issue
29/16.9.55

Memo. no. 82747 C IV)55-1 dt. 16.9.55

Sub Forests - South Kanara Dt. - Areca plantations - ~~Discontin~~ Discontinuance of - Revision of policy.

Ref From the Bd. of Rev (CR) ref. no. 7630/55 dt. 10.9.55.

—

The Bd. of Rev (CR) is informed that the word "plantain" in the second sentence in para 3 of the G.O. Ms. no. 1689 Agri dt. 28.6.55 is correct.

29/15.9.55 — 16.9.55

P.T.O

CENTRAL DESPATCH BRANCH

Despatched by — 21/9/55

Date _____ '55 . Despatcher's Initials.

To The Bd of Rev (CR) Madras

Copy to The C.C.F. Madras

P 1 of ©

P 26 of ©

PP 25-27 of ©

E 32

ON

After issue of the memo. the papers may be stitched with the C.O. (C)

15/9/07

16-9-

C.No. 81932/54

pp1-2 cf.

M p38 g (B)

— do —

p7 g (B)

pp23-24 g (B)

p24 g (B)

— do —

para 6 on pp 115-116 g (B)

p1 cf

Agriculture (C. IV.) Deptt.

Sub: Leases - South Kanara - Areca Plantation - Discontinuance of Revision of policy.

Ref: From the C.C.F. ref. No. 3150/54-G dated 15/5/54

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2. In 1938, the then HM (Agri. and RD) minuted among others that "though South India produces the very best ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ type of arecanut, yet it is unable to fill up the gap in imports to the extent of 100 lakhs every year coming into India. For arecanut cultivation terrain forests seem to be admirably suitable if conditions approximating to those at Mettupalaiyam obtain elsewhere. Possibly, on the West Cost, in the lower reaches of the Anamalais and also in the Udamalpet-Munar valley, it should not be difficult to fix upon such sites for regular plantations to be built up by the Forest department."

3. The C.C.F. was asked to examine the above point and submit proposals. ~~He~~ reported that there are many areas in reserved forests where arecanut plantations can be formed, that again, if this is to be done on an appreciable scale, it would cost money and that would need an increase in establishment, and that in Mangalore South, the District Forest Officer, Mr. R.S.Browne has, since his arrival, been considering the advisability of leasing out suitable areas in the reserved forests to private enterprise for formation of plantations of this species. He therefore suggested that this would be the better line to adopt, rather than that we should ourselves form plantations. The proposal of the C.C.F. to lease out lands in Reserved Forests to private enterprises on reasonable terms for formation of arecanut plantations was approved. He has now reported that arecanut plantations of long term tree crops will first necessitate clear felling and removal of the existing forest crop (if any) on the site, that in any case, there can scarcely be any justification for giving up fores

p.t.o.

land set apart as such, for the purpose of raising agricultural, horticultural or plantation crops, unless the land is obviously unsuitable for raising or sustaining forest crops, (that is) ordinarily a site which will not support a forest crop of one kind or another, is extremely unlikely to be suitable for any of the more exacting (cultivated) crops, and (that) such lands should be devoted only to forest crops. (Further the C.C.F has later that) When permission is given for cultivating land in Reserved Forest with a crop like areca or plantain, it amounts to an admission that the land is not really required for forest purposes, and that (Further,) in return for pittance of a lease amount, the Department may be granting free entry into the Reserve Forest to a potential timber thief or atleast be facilitating other irregularities.

5. In support of his stat that such long term leases would facilitate the commission of various irregularities, the C.C.F. has pointed out the following instances:-

Irregularities committed by Cardamom Lessees.

There are 23 cardamom leases in Tirunelveli Division. Except in eight cases (5,9,10,12,13,15, 16 and 22), breach of conditions in the agreement or failure to plant the area with cardamom has been reported in all other leases and suitable action has been taken in the matter.

Irregularities noticed in the case of a lease of Forest land for Areca Plantation:-

One Sri M. Sankaranarayana Kadambalithaya was granted an area of 43 acres for areca cultivation in Aletty Reserved Forest South Kanara Division ~~in accordance with Government Memorandum No. SS428 CFL/49-1 Development dated 14-11-50 and G.O.Ms.No. 6080 Development dated 19-12-51.~~ The lessee was charged for illicit felling of trees in the leased area. The lease had to be cancelled ~~vide Govt. Memo No. 65700 CFL/53-5 Agriculture dated 21-9-54.~~

p.t.o.

p2 cf

6. C.C.F has therefore suggested that the Forest Department should revise its policy on the question of allowing land leases for areca and such plantations in the Reserved Forests. and that the general orders of Government agreeing to the grant of leases of land in Reserved Forest for Areca and such tree plantations may be cancelled, and that exceptional cases, if any, can always be considered on their merits.

7. The policy of the Government to lease out areas in Reserved Forests on suitable terms for arecanut cultivation does not by itself make it obligatory on the part of C.C.F. to necessarily lease out areas for the purpose. If he considers that no further areas should be leased out for the purpose, he can reject applications. It therefore does not seem necessary that the policy itself should be cancelled. If C.C.'s recommendation is to be accepted, it may perhaps have repurcussions on the future development of existing leased areas. In the circumstances it is for orders whether the suggestion of the C.C.F. will be negatived.

After orders are passed the case may be sent to Revenue and Finance for remarks.

9.7.54

Before any decision is taken to reverse the policy regarding the leasing of reserve forests for planting of plantations, it is better to invite the remarks of the Board which may consult Select Collectors — We may even forward copies of correspondence referred to in para 6 of the C.C.'s letter and invite the remarks of the Board.

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10.7.54

13.7.54 ADS

JO US

With reference to orders at the bottom of p.3 ante, a draft memo is submitted below for approval.

15/7/54.

15/7/54

Memo No. 81932 C.IV/54. I.D. 17.7.54 to the Bd of Rev.

The notes and orders on pp 1-3 above, and the Memo to the Board of Revenue on p 3 C F may be perused. The remarks of the Board of Rev: called for in the Memo have not been received even after a lapse of over six months during which period ~~a number~~ reminders were sent at periodical intervals. A draft D.O to the Secy of the Board is therefore submitted below for approval

31/7/54

Secy (with file)

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Secy to typ

17/7/54

Vide Rt. File below

Secy Vide p. 1 ante

AGRICULTURE(CIV) DEPT.

Issued as Memo.No.81932 CIV/54-7 dated 1-4-55.

From the Board of Revenue (L.R.) B.PRt.1767.d/1.4.55.

From the Bd.of Revenue(L-R.) B.Dis.E.3396/55.dated 18-4-55.

From the C.C.F.Ref.No.3150/54.G.C1 dated 2.5.55.

From the Board of Revenue (L.R.) L.Dis.(E) 3731/55. dated 2-5-55.

The file deals with the proposal of the C.C.F. regarding the revision of policy on the question of allowing leases of Reserved Forest for areca plantations.

2. In 1938, the then H.M(Agri and RD) minuted, among others, that "though South India produces the very best type of arecanut, yet it is unable to fill up the gap in imports to the extent of 100 lakhs every year coming into India. For arecanut cultivation terrai forests seem to be admirably suitable if conditions approximating to those at Mettupalaiyam obtain elsewhere. Possibly, on the West Coast, in the lower reaches of the Anamalais and also in the Udamalpet-Munar valley, it should not be difficult to fix upon such sites for regular plantations to be built up by the Forest Department."

3. The C.C.F. was asked to examine the above point and submit proposals. He reported that there were many areas in reserved forests where arecanut plantations could be formed and that if that was to be done on an appreciable scale, it would cost money and would need an increase in establishment. He also stated that in Mangalore South, the District Forest Officer, Mr. R.S.Browne since his arrival, had been considering the advisability of leasing out suitable areas in the reserved forests to private enterprise for formation of plantations of this species. He therefo

p.t.

suggested that that would be the better line to adopt, rather than the Government taking up for themselves to form plantations. The proposal of the C.C.F. to lease out land in R.Fs to private enterprises on reasonable terms for x formation of arecanut plantations was thereupon approved.

P 24-1 (B)

Para 1 on PP. 115-116 of (B).

4. The C.C.F. has now reported that arecanut plantations of long term tree crops will first necessitate clear felling and removal of the forest crop(if any) on the site and that in any case, there can scarcely be any justification for giving up forest land set apart as such, for the purpose of raising agricultural, horticultural or plantation crops unless the land is obviously unsuitable for raising or sustaining forest crops. He has also stated that oridinarily a site which will not support a forest crop of one kind or another, is extremely unlikely to be suitable for any of the more exacting(cultivated) crops and that such lands should be devoted only to forest crops. Further the C.C.F. has stated that when permission is given for cultivating land in Reserved Forest with a crop like areca or plantain, it amounts to an admission that the land is not really required for forest purposes; and that in return for pittance of a lease amount, the Department may be granting free entry into the Reserve Forest to a potential timber thief or atleast be facilitating other irregularities.

Para 2 on P 1-4

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5. In support of his statement that such long term leases would facilitate the commission of irregularities, the C.C.F. has pointed out the following instances:-

Irregularities committed by Cardamaom Lessees.

There are 23 cardamom leases in Tirunelveli Division. Except in eight cases(5,9,10,12,13,15,16 and 22) breach of conditions in the agreement or failure to plant the area with cardamom has been reported in all other leases and suitable action has been taken in the matter.

A' on P 1-4

Irregularities noticed in the case of a lease of Kar Forest land for Areca Plantation:-

A' on P 1 c.f.

One Sri Sankaranarayana Kadambalithaya was granted an area of 43 acres for areca cultivation in Aletty ReservedForest South Kanara Division. The lessee was charged for illicit felling of trees in the leased area, and the lease had to be cancelled.

Para 3 on P. 2 c.f.

6. The C.C.F. has therefore suggested that the Forest Department should revise its policy on the question of allowing land leases for areca and such plantations in the Reserved Forests, and that the general orders of Government agreeing to the grant of leases of land in Reserved Forest for Areca and such tree plantations may be cancelled, and that exceptional cases, if any, can always be considered on their merits.

P 7 c.f.

7 The remarks of the Board of Revenue (L.R.) was called for in the matter and they will be found on p.9 c.f.

Para 1 on P. 9 c.f.

8. The Board is of the view that when the Forest Department considers a particular plot not required for preservation of forests, there appears to be no need to refuse to grant the land for plantation on suitable conditions and that there is no need for a change in policy. The Board has stated that as regards the lessees who violate that conditions of lease and resort to objectionable activities, there is provision to proceed against them and it will be always open to Government to refuse to ~~review the lessees~~ renew the leases in their favour. It has also stated that the Government can slow down the policy of granting leases for areacanut plantations and decline to ~~review~~ renew leases, when the existing leases expire after taking into account the results achieved on the

Para 2 on P. 9 c.f.

present policy adopted for filling up the gap in imports, with reference to the Government Memo.No.1173.1./38-2 Development dated 2-5-38. P 7 of (B)

9. It may perhaps be stated that the policy of the Government to lease out areas in R.Fs on suitable terms for arecanut plantations does not by itself make it obligatory on the Forest Department to necessarily lease out the areas. It is always open to the Department to refuse the lease of any area, and it does not appear to be sufficient reasons to revise the policy laid down in G.O.Ms.1994, Development dated 15-8-38. Para b on PP 115 & 116 (B)

10. It is now for consideration whether the views of the Board of Revenue may be accepted and the C.C.F. informed accordingly.

For orders.

Each case of application for lease of forest land for S/TT/A cultivation can be considered on its merits. Where is a good Commercial plantation and there is no need to the work its potential sources on account of possible damage to forest. The Forest Dept staff should take prompt and effective measures to prevent any destruction of forest even when area plantation is permitted in suitable areas inside or bordering reserve forests.

The views of the Board may be accepted. The rate of hire amount may if necessary be enhanced so as to provide for meeting additional cost on account of increased staff that may be required to effectively protect forest near area plantation from being illicitly exploited. S

Remarks for before circulation

(25)

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I see no objection to leave suitable areas for valuable crops like cardamom, arecanut plantations etc. provided they do not involve any damage to soil. The lessee in such cases may be able to devote more attention and make a success of the plantation results in profit to him & revenue to govt which cannot be called a 'pittance'. The lands should be put to the best possible use and after all all places are not fit for arecanut while forest-bearing trees are all parts. It is necessary to use for arecanut some places are suitable for it. The measure of assessment is assessed in the 2nd principle Thus.

Rev.
Revenue Department

To A.S.

Notes from p. 5 above may be perused and the file returned to Agriculture. No special remarks seem called for in this Department.

DEPUTY SEC 17 MAY 1955 AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Agri wo 8[illegible]32 C II/54-10
17/5/55

4332 C3

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 18 MAY 1955 REVENUE DEPARTMENT

DS
A.m

FOURTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY 5043 28 MAY 1955 AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Agri

RD No 3444 L00 A/55-1
27.5.55

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AGRI(CIV) DEPT.

The notes from page 5 may be perused.

2. This Department has proposed that the views of the Board that there is no need to effect any change in the policy for grant of land in lease for areca plantation, may be accepted and the C.C.F. informed accordingly. It is also proposed that the rate of lease amount may be enhanced if necessary so as to provide for meeting the cost of the additional staff that may be necessary to effectively protect the forests from being illicitly exploited. Revenue have stated that they have no remarks to offer.

P 9 cf.

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Vide Revenue Dept. notes overleaf.

3. It is now for orders whether the views of the Board of Revenue will be accepted and the C.C.F. informed accordingly, and he will be asked to consider, if necessary, the question of enhancing the rate of lease amount so as to meet the cost of the additional staff that may be employed.

31.5.55

31/5/55

1.6.55

S/M.A.

Please put up a brief self contained note for circulation.

6.6.55

Summary:

The file deals with the proposal of the C.C.F. regarding the revision of policy on the question of allowing leases of Reserved Forest for areca plantations.

2. In 1938, the then H.M(Agriculture and R.D.) minuted, among others, that "though South India produces the very best type of arecanut, yet it is unable to fill up the gap in imports to the extent of 100 lakhs every year coming into

P 38 c 1 (B)

(p.t.o)

India. For arecanut cultivation terrai forests seem to be admirably suitable if conditions approximating to those at Nettupalayam obtain elsewhere . . . Possibly, on the West Coast, in the lower reaches of the Anamalais and also in the Udamalpet-Munar valley, it should not be difficult to fix upon such sites for regular plantations to be built up by the Forest Department.".

'M'an P·38 (B)

P·7 (B)

3. The C.C.F. was asked to examine the above point and submit proposals. He reported that there were many areas in reserved forests where arecanut plantations could be formed and that if ~~the~~ that was to be done on an appreciable scale, it would cost money and would need an increase in establishment. He also stated that in Mangalore South, the District Forest Officer, Mr. R.S. Browne since his arrival, had been considering the advisability of leasing out suitable areas in the reserved forests to private enterprise for formation of plantation of this species. He therefore suggested that that would be the better line to adopt, rather than the Government taking up for themselves ~~to form~~ the formation of plantations. The proposal of the C.C.F. to lease out land in R.Fs to private enterprises on reasonable terms for formation of areacanut plantations was thereupon approved.

PP 23-24 of (B).

P 24 (B)

do -

Para 6 on PP 115-116 of (B)

4. The C.C.F. has now reported that arecanut plantations of long ~~x~~ term tree crops will first necessitate clear felling and removal of the forest crop(if any) on the site and that in any case, there can scarcely be any justification for giving up forest land set apart as such, for the purpose of raising agricultural, horticultural or plantation crops unless the land is obviously unsuitable for raising or sustaining forest crops. He has also stated that ordinarily a site which

Para 2 on P 1 of

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will not support a forest crop of one kind or another, is extremely unlikely to be suitable for any of the more exacting(cultivated) crops and that such lands should be devoted only to forest crops. Further the C.C.F. has stated that when permission is given for cultivating land in Reserved Forest with a crop like areca or plantain, it amounts to an admission that the land is not really required for forest purposes; and that in return for pittance of a lease amount, the Department may be granting free entry into the Reserve Forest to a potential timber thief or atleast be facilitating other irregularities.

Para 2 on P 1 & 3

- do -

5. In support of his statement, that such long term leases would facilitate the commission of irregularities, the C.C.F. has pointed out the following instances:-

Irregularities committed by Cardamom Lessees.

There are 23 cardamom leases in Tirunelveli Division. Except in eight cases(5,9,10,12,13,15,16) and 22) breach of conditions in the agreement or failure to plant the area with cardamom has been reported in all other leases and suitable action has been taken in the matter.

'A' on P 1 & 4

Irregularities noticed in the case of a lease of Forest land for Areca Plantation:-

One Sri Sankaranarayana Kadambalithaya was granted an area of 43 acres for areca cultivation in Aletty Reserved Forest, South Kanara Division. The lessee was charged for illicit felling of trees in the leased area and the lease had to be cancelled.

- do -

6. The C.C.F. has therefore suggested that the Forest Department should revise its policy on the question of allowing land leases for areca and such plantations in the Reserved Forests, and that the general orders of Government agreeing to the grant of leases of land in Reserved Forest for Areca and such tree plantations may be cancelled, and that exceptional cases, if any, can always be considered on their merits.

Para 3 on P. 24

P 7 cf.

7. The remarks of the Board of Revenue(L.R.) was called for in the matter and they will be found on p.9 c.f.

Para 1 on P 9 cf.

8. The Board is of the view that when the Forest Department considers x a particular plot not required for preservation of forests, there appears to be no need to refuse to grant the land for plantation on suitable conditions and that there is no need for a change in policy. The Board has stated that as regards the lessees who violate that conditions of lease and resort to objectionable activities, there is provision to proceed against them and it will be always open to Government to refuse to renew the leases in their favour. It has also stated that the Government can slow down the policy of granting leases for arecanut plantations, and decline to renew leases when the existing leases expire, after taking into account the results achieved on the present policy adopted for filling up the gap in imports, with reference to the Government Memo.No.1173.1/38-2 Development dated 2-5-38.

Para 2 on P.9 cf.

P 7 cf (B)

9. This Department observed that there is no objection to lease suitable areas for valuable crops like Cardamom, arecanut, plantains etc. provided they do not involve any damage to soil. It is considered that the lessee would be generally be able to devote more attention and make a success of the plantation resulting in profit to him and bring revenue to Government which cannot be called a 'pittance'. Further forest lands should be put to the best possible use. As the increase in production of areacanut is envisaged in the Second Five Year Plan it is considered necessary to use for arecanut more places as are suitable for it. It is therefore suggested that the views of the Board that there is no need to effect any change in the policy

Scrap note on P 9 ante

S' on P.8 ante

(p.t.o.)

for grant of land in lease for areca plantation, may be accepted and the C.C.F. informed accordingly. It is also proposed that the rate of lease amount may be enhanced, if necessary, so as to provide for meeting the cost of the additional staff that may be necessary to effectively protect the forests from being illicitly exploited. Revenue have stated that they have no remerks to offer.

'S' on P.8 ante-

P 9 ante

10. It is now for orders whether the views of the Board of Revenue will be accepted and the C.C.F. informed accordingly, and he will be asked to consider, if necessary, the question of enhancing the rate of lease amount so as to meet the cost of the additional staff that may be employed.

'A'

29 3.6.55. 98 8/6/55 11.6.55

The C.C.F has raised the following points also, while requesting the revision of the policy, to which ~~Leave~~ no specific Comments have been offered by the Board

1). That such leasing will necessitate the clear felling & removal of the forest crop if any, on the site.

This does not seem to be correct. What is contemplated, is only the leasing out of 'Suitable areas' in the R.F. Such parts of the R.F, which have a really valuable growth of other trees, need not be considered for leasing purposes, and if an area has only an indifferent growth of trees, it is not worthwhile saving them, merely because it forms part of the Reserve.

2) That such leasing out will amount to an admission that the land is not really required for forest purposes.

As observed by the Secy. at Page/ante, the lands should be put to the best possible use; the forest Dept may consider leasing out only such lands as are really not required for forest preservation and there are

355
8/1932 Civil

could be no basis for any such ~~a~~ admission if it is implied.

3) That ordinarily a site which will not support a forest crop, is extremely unlikely to be suitable for any of the more exacting cultivated crops.

This is an ~~ground~~ apprehension ~~not~~ to be entertained, by if at all, by the persons who contemplate taking the land on lease. If they fail to undertake the ~~necessary~~ improvements necessary for the growth of ~~forest~~ cane, it is always open to the Govt to cancel the lease.

The apprehensions of the C.C.F. appear to be exaggerated, ~~when~~ Considering the fact that the total area that may be available & suitable for such leasing, will be very limited and it could in no way jeopardise the position of the forests.

~~Pp~~ 'A' may be appended.
16.6.55

S.

We should in every way encourage a more intensive development & use of our forests. The failure to do so is one of the reasons for the hostility & unhappiness towards Govt for Govt: the Govt must see that forest area is duly kept out for this, at the same time fully exploited. We may allow parts of it for such or lease for such special crops but this area should be for which the applicant

SECRETARY
21 JUN 1955

M(S) M. Bhaktavatsalam
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W.r.t. orders issued circulating overleaf a draft order is put up below for approval.

28.6.57

26.6.57

S.

24/6/57

Issued as G.O.Ms.No. 1659 Agri 28.6.57. P 25 cy.